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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/783,785	02/20/2004	Thomas Richardson	LSI.94US01 (03-2049)	6953
24319	7590	05/04/2006	EXAMINER	
LSI LOGIC CORPORATION 1621 BARBER LANE MS: D-106 MILPITAS, CA 95035			HASSAN, AURANGZEB	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2182	

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/783,785	Applicant(s) RICHARDSON ET AL.	
	Examiner Aurangzeb Hassan	Art Unit 2182	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 – 10, 12 - 17 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ninomiya (US Patent Number 5,809,330).
3. As per claims 1 and 12, Ninomiya teaches an apparatus for determining the function of a circuit board (expansion unit, element 2, figure 1) disposed in a slot (detection via connectors, element 26 and 27, figure 1) in an enclosure and in electrical communication with said enclosure (laptop-type environment, figure 1), which comprises in combination: (a) means located within said enclosure for displaying a characteristic of the slot (expansion connector detecting various possible characteristics in the form of multitude of expansion devices, column 7, lines 53 – 58); (b) means disposed on said circuit board for detecting the characteristic (upon connection routed to system bus for characteristics further determined by photo-sensors, column 7, lines 66-67, column 8, lines 1 – 10); and (c) a processor for interpreting the detected characteristic and for directing said circuit board to perform the function associated therewith (CPU enables connectors and determining of characteristics between

expansion unit and main unit, element 11, figure 1).

4. As per claims 2 and 13, Ninomiya teaches the apparatus wherein said means located within said enclosure for displaying a characteristic of the slot comprises means for generating at least one signal, and at least one tab disposed within the interior of the slot capable of substantially reducing the at least one signal (light from photo emitter to photoreceptor is considered at least one signal generated, column 8, lines 7 – 10).

5. As per claims 3 and 14, Ninomiya teaches an apparatus wherein said means disposed on said circuit board for detecting the characteristic of the slot comprises means for detecting the at least one signal (photo sensors, elements 30-31, figure 1).

6. As per claims 4 and 15, Ninomiya teaches an apparatus wherein said means for generating at least one signal comprises a source of light (photo emitter, column 8, lines 7 – 10), and wherein said means for detecting the characteristic of the slot comprises at least one light detector (photo-sensor, element 30, figure 1) adapted for detecting light generated from said source of light.

7. As per claim 5, Ninomiya teaches an apparatus wherein said at least one tab is disposed in a pattern characteristic of the slot, and said at least one light detector, reproduces the pattern characteristic of the slot (indication of the option card generated based on signal DTE2, column 8, lines 21 – 27).

8. As per claim 6, Ninomiya teaches an apparatus wherein the light generated from said source of light is substantially reduced by said at least one tab when said at least one tab is disposed between said source of light and said at least one light detector (passage of light block upon insertion of option card substantially reducing the light generated from the source in reference to the opposing photo-sensor, column 8, lines 21 – 24).

9. As per claims 7 and 9, Ninomiya teaches an apparatus wherein said at least one source of light comprises at least one light emitting diode (photo-emitter, column 8, lines 7 – 10) and said at least one light detector comprises a charge-coupled detector (photo-receptor, column 8, lines 10 – 13).

10. As per claims 8 and 16, Ninomiya teaches an apparatus wherein said means displaying a characteristic of the slot comprises at least one source of light; and said means for detecting the characteristic of said slot comprises at least one light detector adapted for detecting light generated by said at least one source of light, whereby the pattern characteristic of the slot is reproduced by said at least one light detector.

11. As per claims 10 and 17 an apparatus wherein said means for detecting the characteristic of the slot comprises at least one microswitch (microswitch, column 8, lines 33 – 35) in electrical communication with said processor, and said means for

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displaying a characteristic of the slot comprises at least one projection positioned on a wall of said enclosure disposed in a pattern characteristic of the slot and adapted to actuate one of said at least one microswitch when said circuit board is inserted into the slot, such that the characteristic of the slot is sensed by said at least one microswitch (mechanically detected by means of microswitch through detection of a change in voltage to certain pins of the expansion connector, column 8, lines 27 - 35).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

12. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

13. Claims 11 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ninomiya in view of Pope et al. (US Patent Number 4,781,066).

14. As per claims 11 and 18, Ninomiya fails to teach and apparatus wherein said means disposed on said circuit board for detecting the characteristic of the slot comprises a Hall-effect apparatus.

Pope et al. analogously teaches an apparatus wherein said means disposed on said circuit board for detecting the characteristic of the slot comprises a Hall-effect apparatus (element 75, figure 6, column 6, lines 36 – 40).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to modify Ninomiya with the above teaches of Pope et al. One of ordinary skill would have been motivated to make such modification in order to have a detection system that permits enhanced sensitivity and noise immunity in the system (column 7, lines 7 – 10).


Conclusion

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aurangzeb Hassan whose telephone number is (571) 272-8625. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Huynh can be reached on (571)272-4147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AH



KIM HUYNH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
5/1/06